

Abstract of the Disclosure

5 A non-polarized input beam has a waist matching that of
the light input surface of a polarizing beam splitter wherein the
beam is divided into P and S components. The P component exits
through a $\frac{1}{2}$ wave retarder and the S component is directed to a
turning prism from which it exits in tandem with the P component
to form an output beam having a geometrical extent substantially
twice that of the input beam. The P and S components are confined
10 by sides of the splitter and the prism, respectively, by Total
Internal Reflection, thereby achieving high efficiency without
increasing the size of the optical components from that of lower
efficiency, prior art polarization converters.